

MINUTES  
MALIBU PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 2, 2016  
MULTIPURPOSE ROOM  
5:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Saul called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following persons were recorded in attendance by the Recording Secretary:

PRESENT: Chair David Saul; Vice Chair Chris Frost; and Commissioners Marlene Matlow, Meril May, and Carol Randall (arrived at 5:06 p.m.)

ALSO PRESENT: Bob Brager, Public Works Director; Brad Davis, Emergency Services Coordinator; Lieutenant Jim Royal, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; and Mary Linden, Recording Secretary

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Guy Blake led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION Chair Saul moved and Commissioner Matlow seconded a motion to approve the agenda with Item No. 4.C. to be heard before Item No. 4.B. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA

Recording Secretary Linden reported that the agenda for the meeting was properly posted on February 23, 2016.

ITEM 1.A. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Carla Cohen discussed problems with people urinating and defecating on Latigo Canyon Road. She stated motorists were also speeding and racing. She requested portable restrooms be installed at the end of Latigo and other canyons. She asked for additional Sheriff's enforcement in that area. She stated she called the Sheriff's Department and California Highway Patrol (CHP) and both directed her to the other agency.

In response to Ms. Cohen, Lt. Royal explained that the Sheriff's Department was responsible for the area within Malibu city limits and CHP enforced the County area. He apologized for the lack of response she got from law enforcement and stated he would work with CHP to improve enforcement in her area. He explained Safe Canyons.

ITEM 1.B. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner May asked if the City could install portable toilets at the end of Latigo. Public Works Director Brager stated he would look into it. Commissioner Randall suggested signs be installed to direct people to restroom facilities at Dan Blocker Beach.

Commissioner Randall commended the City on the Las Flores Creek Park ribbon cutting event. She stated Las Flores is a great park.

Commissioner May discussed the meeting held last night by America Unites regarding PCBs in Malibu schools. He urged everyone to support the movement to ensure the healthiest schools possible.

Commissioner Randall discussed information distributed at the Malibu Unites meeting that described the effects of PCBs on those who are exposed.

Chair Saul disclosed he was no longer employed with Paradise Cove.

ITEM 2 CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION Commissioner Randall moved and Commissioner Matlow seconded a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion carried unanimously.

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

- A. Previously Discussed Items  
None.
- B. New Items
  - 1. Approval of Minutes – February 3, 2016  
Staff recommendation: Approve minutes of the Public Safety Commission Regular meeting of February 3, 2016.

ITEM 3 OLD BUSINESS

None.

ITEM 4 NEW BUSINESS

- A. Emergency Preparedness Program Quarterly Report  
Recommended Action: Receive and file update on the City's Emergency Preparedness Program activities for the period of December 2015 through February 2016.

Emergency Services Coordinator Davis presented the report. He discussed training provided regarding active shooters.

Commissioner Randall thanked Emergency Services Coordinator Davis for the pet first aid class. Emergency Services Coordinator Davis stated there were pet first aid books available for the public.

Emergency Services Coordinator Davis and Public Works Director Brager discussed the City's preparations for the upcoming El Niño storms.

Chair Saul left the meeting at 5:33 p.m.

C. Public Safety Agency Activity

Recommended Action: Discuss recent Public Safety Agency activities and receive and file monthly activity reports from the County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, Fire Department and Lifeguard Division.

Lt. Royal discussed the Sheriff's Department's participation in the active shooter training. He discussed burglary investigations. He stated he met with Vice Chair Frost regarding traffic issues and key locations on PCH where violations were prevalent. He stated he was working on mapping the greatest areas of concern, similar to mapping prepared for homeless enforcement.

Commissioner Matlow stated she discussed deployment with Deputy Treinen. Lt. Royal explained that patrol deputies were deployed based on collective knowledge. Commissioner Matlow stated there was a lack of traffic enforcement in Point Dume. She stated another patrol car or heightened Sheriff's presence for traffic enforcement was needed in Point Dume. She stated she felt the Volunteers on Patrol (VOP) were underutilized. She suggested VOPs be assigned to Point Dume and trained to use radar guns as a deterrent. She expressed her continued concerns about the Fire Department response time being reduced by speed humps.

Commissioner Randall stated she thought the greatest offenders in Point Dume were Point Dume residents. She suggested homeowners groups in Point Dume be more active in reducing speeding and other traffic violations.

Lt. Royal stated the Sheriff's Department did have a presence in Point Dume and issued many citations. He discussed the difference in accident statistics between western and eastern Malibu.

Commissioner Matlow suggested that periodic patrolling by the Sheriff's Department could offset the need for speed humps. She stated the desire for additional Sheriff's presence was a collective attitude expressed by residents, NextDoor Point Dume and those in attendance at the City's Point Dume Traffic Management Community meetings. She suggested placing speed trailers and signage to warn motorists to watch their speed.

Vice Chair Frost agreed with Commissioner Matlow that a VOP presence could be a deterrent to speeding.

Commissioner May agreed with Commissioner Matlow regarding the need for increased enforcement in western Malibu and the use of VOPs as a deterrent. He supported Commissioner Matlow's suggestion that the City contract for an additional patrol car. He commended the Sheriff's Department for working to reduce accidents by analyzing statistical information regarding accidents on PCH. Lt. Royal stated statistics showed that a significant number of accidents are caused by unsafe turning, as well as speeding. Commissioner May expressed frustration with getting Caltrans to install signage or other measures to reduce traffic violations.

Commissioner Randall stated residents can educate their neighbors about how to make safe turns on PCH.

Lt. Royal discussed Commissioner Matlow's request to provide statistics about citations issued to Malibu residents versus visitors. He stated he was also investigating the percentage of residents who were involved in or found to be at fault in accidents. He stated that information could help focus public education.

Commissioner Randall stated she had been requesting for years that the public be educated about the proper way to safely make u-turns on PCH. Commissioner Matlow suggested offering public education at schools, churches, and through local media to reach the largest assemblies of people.

Vice Chair Frost agreed with Commissioner Randall about the need for public education. He asked about the status of the City and Sheriff's Department publishing regular public safety tips in the local papers.

Chris Bashaw, Editor of Malibu Surfside News, stated he was open to publishing a public safety column. Lt. Royal confirmed that information would come from the Sheriff's Department.

Commissioner Matlow stated the student body at Pepperdine University should be educated about safe driving in Malibu.

Commissioner Randall asked about the power outage that knocked out traffic signals at PCH and Topanga Canyon and PCH at Sunset Boulevard on February 29. Lt. Royal explained that Topanga was the jurisdiction of CHP and Sunset was covered by the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD). He discussed how the Sheriff's Department received and shared the information. He stated deputies had responded to Topanga, even though it was outside the jurisdiction of the Sheriff's Department. He discussed the CHP and LAPD responses.

Commissioner Matlow stated the PCH Task Force needs to develop a better response for similar situations in the future. She stated the delays were unacceptable.

Commissioner Randall asked about liability if a private citizen got out to direct traffic. Lt. Royal stated he did not know the legal liability, but it was a bad idea.

B. Update on Projects Affecting Traffic on Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) and City Streets

Recommended Action: 1) Receive and file status updates on projects affecting traffic on PCH and City streets, including: a) Point Dume Traffic Management Community Meeting; b) Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Street Maintenance Project; c) El Niño update; and d) Caltrans maintenance work; and 2) Provide questions to be asked during the City's biweekly conference call with Caltrans staff.

Chair Saul returned to the meeting at 6:34 p.m.

Commissioner Matlow stated she was very disappointed in the City's continued support for installing speed humps in Point Dume. She stated the City was ignoring the Fire Department's expertise. She stated she felt like she was not being heard. Public Works Director Brager discussed the second community meeting held last week regarding options for Point Dume traffic management. He stated staff would present alternatives at the March 14, 2016 City Council meeting. Commissioner Matlow stated she discussed with the City Manager her feeling that Councilmembers Peak and Sibert should not have voted to install speed humps on their streets due to a conflict of interest. She stated she thought they should have recused themselves from the vote.

Commissioner Randall stated it seemed that younger families were more concerned about speeding and older residents were more concerned about response to medical emergencies.

In response to Chair Saul, Public Works Director Brager confirmed that golf carts were discussed at the Point Dume meeting. He stated Deputy Winn was in attendance to respond to questions. In response to Chair Saul, Public Works Director Brager stated staff was not proposing anything to the Council at this time regarding golf carts.

Commissioner Matlow reiterated her feeling that speed humps should not be a priority for calming traffic. She restated that an increased Sheriff's presence was a greater deterrent for speeding.

Commissioner Randall asked about liability if a resident dies because emergency personnel were delayed due to speed humps.

Commissioner May stated most of those in attendance at the Point Dume meeting supported taking back the public right of way. He suggested the City rent radar trailers for Point Dume. He discussed issues to be brought up to Caltrans, including the need for repaving shoulders, and additional and replacement No Parking signage near Malibu Seafood and pocket beaches.

Mark Russo, VOP, agreed with the need for replacement signage. He discussed safety concerns of residents near El Matador Beach who could not safely exit their homes due to illegally parked cars that blocked their view of oncoming traffic. He stated the VOPs could not cite those parked vehicles because the faded or missing signs made the citations unenforceable.

Public Works Director Brager discussed the City's signal synchronization project. He stated the City was completing the paperwork for MTA funding. He stated the City received approval last week for the Civic Center Way Improvements Project and would proceed with design. He discussed problems with the La Costa crosswalk project. Commissioner Randall asked if the City had approached the La Costa homeowners association for support.

Commissioner May suggested the City contact Caltrans to clear drains and shoulders before the upcoming storms.

In response to Commissioner Randall, Recording Secretary Linden stated the parking lot standards ordinance to be considered by the City Council addressed the installation of bollards or other protective devices near outdoor dining areas. She stated the ordinance did not include parking lot lighting issues. She suggested Commissioner Randall request that those issues be included in the dark sky ordinance.

Commissioner Matlow requested that discussion of contracting additional Sheriff's patrol vehicles be placed on a future agenda.

#### ADJOURNMENT

MOTION At 7:07 p.m., Commissioner Matlow moved and Chair Saul seconded a motion to adjourn in memory of Shawna Lynn Jones, an inmate firefighter killed while fighting a fire in Malibu, and Prince William County Police Officer Ashley Guindon, who was killed in the line of duty on her first day on the job. The motion carried unanimously.

Approved and adopted by the Public Safety Commission of the City of Malibu on April 6, 2016.

  
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DAVID SAUL, Chair

ATTEST:

  
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MARY LINDEN, Recording Secretary